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MARCH 12, 2001

**SCORES IN
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INSIDE:

**Black Stars Make
Their Mark With Hit
Music And Hot
Fashions At Grammys**

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(ISSN 0021-5996)

DESTINY'S CHILD, showing off one of the two Grammy awards the group won, was among the Blacks making their mark in music and fashion at this year's Grammy Awards ceremony **ON PAGE 14**.

Cover photo by
Bill Jones



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JET is published weekly: U.S.A. one year \$38.00; Canada, Pan America \$44.00; foreign \$48.00 by Johnson Publishing Company, Inc., 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605. Payable in U.S. currency only. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago, Illinois and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to JET, 820 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605.

Offices at Rockefeller Center, 1270 Avenue of The Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020, 1750 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, 3600 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010.

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TL1P-QT0-93CQ

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Gov. Jeb Bush Cries For Blacks Who Are Ridiculed For Working On His Staff

Florida Gov. Jeb Bush wept before a Black Baptist education group in Tallahassee, FL, as he introduced his minority staffers and appointees who he said have been ridiculed by African-Americans for associating with him.

Bush's decision last year to abolish affirmative action in university admissions and state contracting has prompted criticism and demonstrations by Blacks, including a sit-in by Black lawmakers in the governor's offices.

Bush made his emotional comments at the meeting of the Southern Regional Conference of the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education held at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Tallahassee.

Bush said he feels hurt by the criticism, not for himself, but for people like Leslie Steele, one of his press aides, and David Griffin, lottery secretary, both Black. Afterward, Bush said he became teary when he looked at Steele in the audience.

"I saw her and I decided to speak from my heart about it," Bush said.

He had asked that Steele come to the podium. When she did, she handed him a tissue that he used to wipe his eyes.

"I'm not crying for me," Bush told Steele. "I'm crying for you, Leslie, and others who have to make the ultimate sacrifice."

Bush said the criticism was unfair because his initiative that replaced

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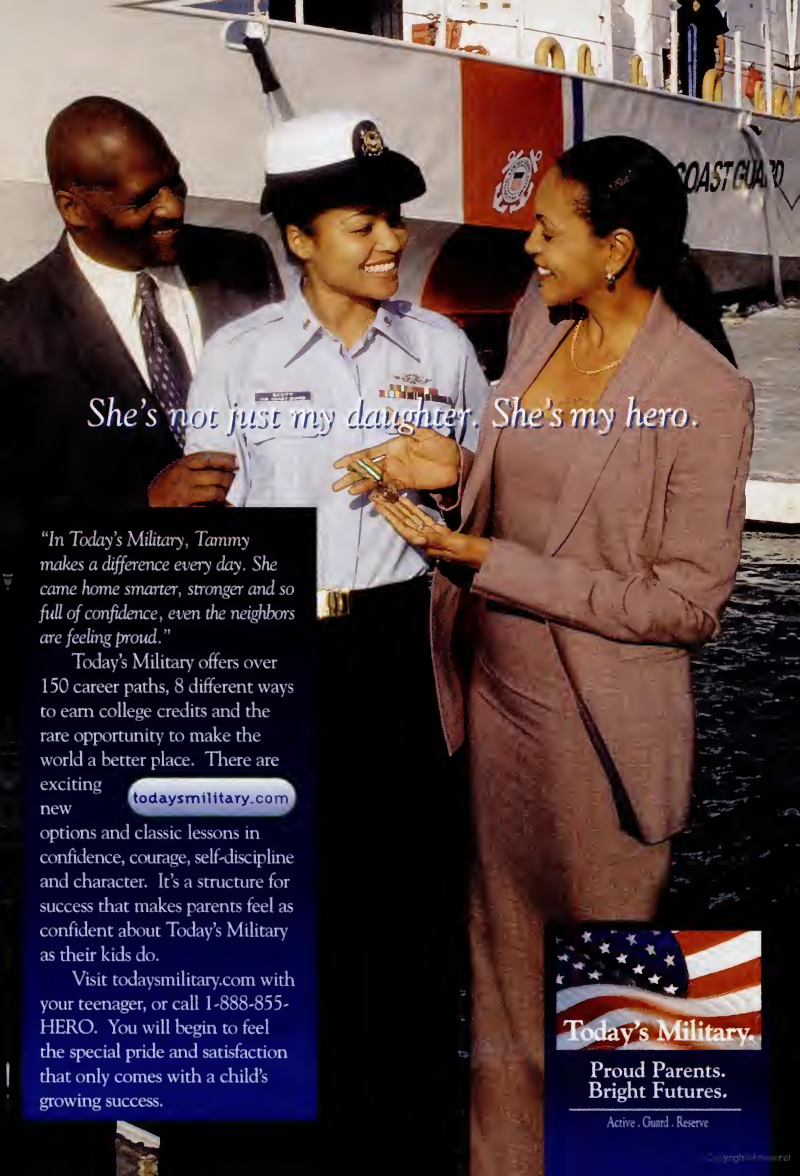
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Florida Governor Jeb Bush, brother of President George W. Bush, cries before a Black Baptist education group meeting in Tallahassee, FL.



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affirmative action has increased Black enrollment at universities. He also said that minority contracting with agencies he controls is up about 90 percent and that his administration is the most diverse in Florida history.

However, White as well as Black enrollment at universities increased last fall, leaving the percentage of Blacks about the same.

The Republican governor received

a standing ovation when he was introduced at the church meeting and again when he finished.

The group's leaders support Bush's voucher program that uses tax dollars to send children from failing public schools to private and religious schools.

Other minority organizations, including the NAACP, have opposed vouchers because they take money from public schools.

Minister Louis Farrakhan Speaks Out During Annual Saviours' Day Celebration

Nation of Islam leader Minister Louis Farrakhan returned to the public spotlight for the first time in nearly four months after he had major surgery.

Looking healthy and fit and as energetic as ever, Farrakhan delivered a fiery address at the annual Saviours' Day in Chicago, held in honor of the

Nation of Islam founder, Master Fard Muhammad and teacher of the late Nation of Islam leader, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

He spoke to a crowd of more than 4,000 supporters at Christ Universal Temple in Chicago. The speech was also broadcast nationally in more than 90 cities via satellite.

▼ *Nation of Islam leader Minister Louis Farrakhan delivers a fiery address at the annual Saviours' Day celebration in Chicago.*



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He said he wanted to set the record straight for anyone who thought his serious health issues in the last few years have caused him to soften. He assured his followers that he is as strong and determined to fight for Black people as ever before.

"When I said I had a near-death experience, they said, 'This is a kinder, softer, sweeter, gentler Farrakhan.' The hell he is. You just don't know. How can a man be kinder and gentler when the suffering of our people is getting greater and the oppression and the tyranny is getting greater? So you don't understand me," he said as the crowd applauded.

He also told the crowd: "It is not that I am sick, but the operation was

so (major) that it will take just a bit more time to get me all the way back."

Farrakhan's daughter, Fatima Farrakhan, a registered nurse, announced that he is recovering well from the surgery in November to repair damage done by treatment for prostate cancer (JET, Nov. 20, 2000).

"We anticipate one final minor operation. That will restore the minister's condition and bring him back to his old self." She thanked Allah for her father's recovery, saying he was "free of cancer as I speak."

The Saviours' Day celebration was Farrakhan's first major public appearance since his highly successful Million Family March held last October in Washington, D.C.

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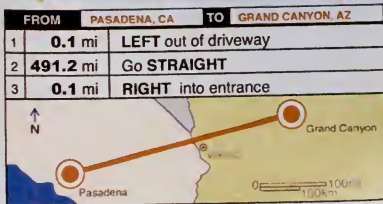
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THERE AND BACK.

TICKER TAPE

by Simeon Booker, Washington Bureau Chief

Confidential: Though the GOP election victory deprived him of becoming the first Black chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. **Charles Rangel** still turned out a winner by masterminding ex-President **Bill Clinton**'s landing office space in Harlem. The GOP takeover of Capitol Hill hasn't dampened the veteran congressman's spirit...In five years, **Kweisi Mfume** has turned the once-bankrupt NAACP into an enterprise with a \$3.3 million surplus. The former Baltimore congressman gave up a safe Maryland House seat to re-energize an organization with a \$4.5 million budget deficit. Now he's regarded as a civil rights superman as he begins his second five-year term...High Court Comeback: With the new White House administration, Supreme Court Justice **Clarence Thomas** is in the mainstream with President **George W. Bush** appointing many of Thomas'

contemporaries to key posts. Justice Thomas swore in Attorney General **John Ashcroft**, who has named two of the Black judge's pals for ranking Justice Dept. posts—**Larry Thompson** as deputy attorney general, the No. 2 slot, and **Charles James** as the first Black anti-trust division chief. Another Thomas pal, **Alphonso Jackson**, will become HUD deputy secretary...President Bush earned the plaudits of the ladies when he rejected suggestions that Vice President **Dick Cheney** head the important meetings of the National Security Council. He also demanded that **Condoleezza Rice** chair the meetings and sit between Secretary of State **Colin Powell** and Defense Secretary **Don Rumsfeld**...In his new book, *PowerNomics: the National Plan to Empower Black America*, Dr. **Claud Anderson** outlines a five-year plan to make Black America self-sufficient and self-supporting.

National Headliners

Commerce Secretary **Don Evans** reversed President Clinton's plan to let the Census Bureau adjust the census count by adding voters to account for the loss

of 3 million Black and minority residents. The secretary now has the final decision that could affect Black voting strength in numerous Dixie states...**Roberta Cheff Brooks** retired after 30 years of Congressional service in California's 9th district of Rep. **Barbara Lee**...Upgraded to brigadier general, Col. **Bert Holmes** was appointed assistant adjutant general of Virginia's Department of Military Affairs by Gov. **Jim Gilmore**.



Charles Rangel



Clarence Thomas



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▲ *Destiny's Child members (l-r) Kelly Rowland, Beyoncé Knowles and Michelle Williams perform the group's hit Independent Women. The trio took home two of music's highest honors.*

Black Stars Make Their Mark With Hit Music And Hot Fashions At Grammys

Black performers' chart-topping music and the eye-opening fashions worn by them made their mark at the recent 43rd Annual Grammy Awards telecast in Los Angeles.

The music of Destiny's Child, Dr. Dre, D'Angelo and B.B. King was among the big Grammy winners during the evening. But it was also the

hot fashions worn by winners and nominees alike that won raves from the worldwide viewing audience.

Destiny's Child won for Best R&B Duo or Group for *Say My Name*. That record was also named R&B Song of the Year. Dr. Dre won as Producer of the Year, Non-classical. He also won in the Best Rap Performance by a



◀ Dr. Dre and his wife, Nicole, were happy with his two wins.
▼ D'Angelo also won two of the coveted statuettes.



Duo or Group for *Forget About Dre* with Eminem. He produced nine hit albums during the year.

D'Angelo won in the categories of R&B Vocal Performance Male for *Untitled (How Does it Feel)* and R&B Album for *Voodoo*. King won Best Traditional Blues Album for *Riding With the King* with Eric Clapton and for Pop Collaboration with Vocals for *Is You Is, or Is You Ain't (My Baby)* with Dr. John.

Toni Braxton won as Best R&B Female Vocalist for *He Wasn't Man Enough* and she was also the premier fashion showstopper of the evening.

In the weeks leading up to the telecast from the cavernous Staples

► B.B. King was riding high after winning two honors, Best Traditional Blues Album and Pop Collaboration with Vocals.

Center, controversial rapper Eminem made all the headlines. But, during and after the show, it was the barely-clad Braxton who made all the news. Wearing a Richard Tyler dress that covered less than Jennifer Lopez's outfit last year, Braxton turned heads, opened eyes and made head-



lines. Host Jon Stewart told the audience that he'd lost his scarf, and he'd heard Toni Braxton found it.

Backstage, Braxton told reporters: "I've always gone a little risqué. Before I get married and have babies, I figured I'd wear this." She said she used two-sided tape to keep everything in place. She also told reporters

Continued on page 52



▲ Erykah Badu, sporting a clean-shaven head, was a presenter. ◀ Sexy Toni Braxton, a winner as well as a presenter, is congratulated by her fiancé, performer Keri Lewis of Mint Condition. ▼ Macy Gray performed her hot single I Try and won an honor for the song as Best Pop Female Vocalist.



Bill Jones

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Marcus Allen Sells His Calif. Home To Dallas Cowboys QB Troy Aikman For \$6.5 Mil.



Marcus Allen

Marcus Allen, former football star who's now a sportscaster, recently sold his home near Santa Barbara, CA, to Dallas Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman for approximately \$6.5 million.

The Hot Property section of the Los Angeles Times reported that the home in the elegant community of Montecito is one that Allen has owned for about five years. It sits on about an acre in the foothills and has ocean and mountain views, the paper reported. No other details were available.

Died:

CENSUS

Khalid Abdul Muhammad, 53, the former Nation of Islam official who went on to found the New Black Panther Party, of a brain hemorrhage in a hospital in Marietta, GA... **Tommie Lee Agee**, 58, the center fielder who made two of the greatest catches in World Series history to help the New York Mets triumph over the Baltimore Orioles for the championship in 1969, of a heart attack at Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan... **Jack McDuff**, 74, acclaimed longtime jazz organist and bandleader, in a Minneapolis nursing home of a heart attack.

Black Children Eat Most Of Their Meals While Watching TV

A new study has revealed that many kids are watching television while eating dinner—perhaps explaining a link between TV and weight problems.

Black children consumed 62% of their meals in front of the television according to researchers with Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, who surveyed nearly 300 fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders about their eating habits.

Survey data shows overweight children eat nearly 50% more dinners while watching television than their normal-weight peers.

Nutritionists of the Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor say people who watch television while eating aren't aware of their natural hunger and don't realize when they become full. This causes them to eat too much.

Forty-three percent of Hispanic children, 32% of White children and 21% of Asian-American children ate their meals in front of the television.

The American tradition of sitting down as a family to eat dinner may seem to be a pastime. However, family-focused meals tend to have a positive influence on children's eating habits.

Kids who ate dinner with their families ate more vegetables and drank less soda than those who ate dinner alone. Also, kids were more likely to consume lower-fat foods.

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SOCIETY WORLD



▲ **I Am Yours:** Monroe W. Hinton II made the former Tamar S. Thompson his bride at St. John's Missionary Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. The bride is a social worker. She is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma. The bridegroom, a salesman for Bob Moore Cadillac in Oklahoma, attended Central State University. They honeymooned in Jamaica and will reside in Oklahoma City.

▲ **Beautiful Life:** Kenneth Fidel Taylor married Allison Nichelle Stoute at New Testament Baptist Church in North Highlands, CA. A graduate of California State University, Chico, the bride is a drug court coordinator for Yolo County Superior Court in Woodland, CA. The groom is a field account representative for Comcast Cable in Sacramento, CA. Tahiti was the honeymoon spot.



◀ **Diamond Anniversary:** The Bishop C.C. Owens and his wife, Elvie, commemorated six decades of marital bliss with family and friends at the Sky Lite West Banquet Hall in Chicago. Bishop Owens has pastored the Emanuel Church of God in Christ for 45 years. Mrs. Elvie Owens is the church's first lady. They are the parents of four, grandparents of seven and great-grandparents of six. The Owens celebrated by honeymooning in Hawaii.



SOCIETY WORLD

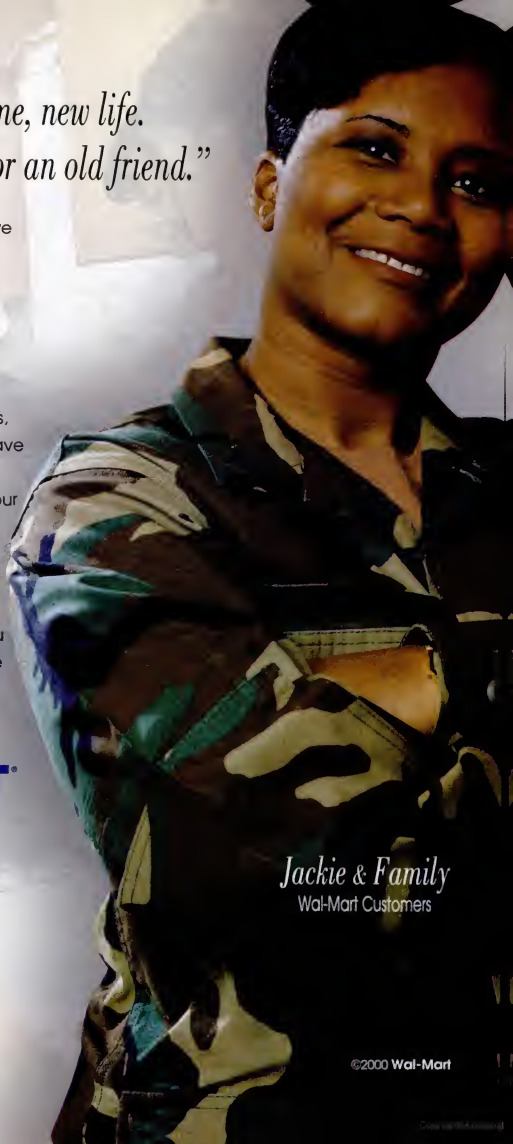
▲ **Candlelight Ceremony:** Jeffrey B. Baldwin united with Kimberly L. Williams at the Mt. Zion First Baptist Church in San Antonio. The bride, a provider relations representative for AmCare Healthplans, is a graduate of the University of Houston. The groom, an origination manager, Enron Corporation, is a graduate of Duquesne University. They honeymooned in Ocho Rios, Jamaica.



▲ **Love Conquers All:** Timothy Maurice Hudson and Tami Le Andra Darden are all aglow after they exchanged marital vows at the Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church in Norcross, GA. They are both graduates of the Georgia Institute of Technology. The bride is a senior consultant at KPMG, LLP, and the groom is a sales engineer with Rockwell Automation. Hawaii was the honeymoon spot.



◀ **Cheerful Hearts:** Gregory L. West pledged his eternal love to Sherie L. Brown at the Harry P. Leu Botanical Gardens in Orlando, FL. The college sweethearts are both graduates of Tuskegee University. The bride is a senior accountant for Per-Se Technologies. The bridegroom is a manager for Arthur Andersen, LLP. The honeymoon location for the loving twosome was the Cayman Islands.



*"New job, new home, new life.
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Actor Paul Winfield Keeps His Diabetes In Check; Urges Blacks To Lose Weight And Get Tested



Paul Winfield

Paul Winfield loves a good meal.

"Food is more than subsistence—it's a social event in my life," says the veteran actor and gourmand. "I'm a pretty good cook and I enjoy doing

it, and I share it with my friends and family. And I love to eat."

But his fondness for food came at a hefty price: a lifelong battle with obesity and a diagnosis of diabetes, which jeopardized his life and acclaimed acting career.

"It's such a pernicious disease," says Winfield, who discovered he had type 2 diabetes, the most common form, nearly 20 years ago after a relative with the disease encouraged him to get checked for it. "So many Blacks are at higher risk than the rest of the population and we need to be aware of it."

Nearly 2.3 million Blacks have diabetes, which affects how the body produces or uses the hormone insulin. Blacks are almost twice as likely to have diabetes as Whites, the American Diabetes Assn. reports, and we experience higher rates of blindness, kidney failure and amputation as a result of it.

Also, more than 30 percent of Blacks are obese (compared to 25 percent of Whites) and more than half of Black women are overweight, putting them at special risk for diabetes and other serious health problems.

Obesity not only increases your risk for diabetes but also aggravates the disease. Winfield himself can bear witness to this. At his largest, the 6-foot-2 actor weighed nearly 260 pounds and had high blood pressure.

"No one ever said so, but I'm sure my weight was the reason I didn't get certain roles," he reveals. Worse, after years of having been overweight and poorly managing his diabetes, Winfield began to suffer nerve damage. About 60 to 70 percent of diabetics have nerve damage, which causes numbness and tingling in hands and feet, and at its worst can lead to amputation of lower limbs.

"Luckily, I never got that far, but I started doing the 'diabetic shuffle,'" he jokes. "You don't move quite as fast as you used to, your feet are numb; there's still pain, you get out of breath crossing the street and it's hard to get around."

With his diabetes getting out of hand, Winfield knew he had to make a change. But he had to be honest with himself. "I find it boring to stay on a diet," admits Winfield, who over the years has tried many diet plans. "I'm not a very good diet patient. I fall off the diet wagon."

On the advice of his doctor, he recently started taking a weight-loss medication that reduces the amount of fat his body absorbs and started a cardiac rehabilitation program for his exercise needs. He takes insulin to help control his diabetes, but says he doesn't



NEW for TYPE 2 DIABETES

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Along with diet and exercise, Glucophage XR can help lower your blood sugar, so talk to your doctor, today.

Important Information:

Glucophage XR is not for everyone. In rare cases, Glucophage XR may cause lactic acidosis (buildup of lactic acid in the blood) which is serious and can be fatal in half the cases. This occurs mainly in people whose kidneys are not functioning properly. Tell your doctor about your alcohol use because it can affect your risk. You should not take this drug if you: have kidney problems, are 80 or older (unless your kidneys are tested), are taking medication for heart failure, are seriously dehydrated, have a severe infection, or have or have had liver disease. The most common side effect is diarrhea.

Please see additional important patient information on the next page.

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GLUCOPHAGE[®] XR
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F5-K268B

Issued: March 2001

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PATIENT INFORMATION

GLUCOPHAGE®

(metformin hydrochloride tablets)

and

GLUCOPHAGE® XR

(metformin hydrochloride extended-release tablets)

Read this information carefully before you start taking this medicine and each time you refill your prescription. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of your doctor's advice. Ask your doctor or pharmacist if you do not understand some of this information or if you want to know more about this medicine.

What are GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR?

GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR are used to treat type 2 diabetes. This is also known as non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus. People with type 2 diabetes are not able to make enough insulin or respond normally to the insulin their bodies make. When this happens, sugar (glucose) builds up in the blood. This can lead to serious medical problems including kidney damage, amputations, and blindness. Diabetes is also closely linked to heart disease. The main goal of treating diabetes is to lower your blood sugar to a normal level.

High blood sugar can be lowered by diet and exercise, by a number of medicines taken by mouth, and by insulin shots. Before you take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR, try to control your diabetes by exercise and weight loss. While you take your diabetes medicine, continue to exercise and follow the diet advised for your diabetes. No matter what your recommended diabetes management plan is, studies have shown that maintaining good blood sugar control can prevent or delay complications of diabetes, such as blindness.

GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR have the same active ingredient. However, GLUCOPHAGE XR works longer in your body. Both of these medicines help control your blood sugar in a number of ways. These include helping your body respond better to the insulin it makes naturally, decreasing the amount of sugar your liver makes, and decreasing the amount of sugar your intestines absorb. GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR do not cause your body to make more insulin. Because of this, when taken alone, they rarely cause hypoglycemia (low blood sugar), and usually do not cause weight gain. However, when they are taken with a sulfonylurea or with insulin, hypoglycemia is more likely to occur, as is weight gain.

WARNING: A small number of people who have taken GLUCOPHAGE have developed a serious condition called lactic acidosis. Lactic acidosis is caused by a buildup of lactic acid in the blood. This happens more often in people with kidney problems. Most people with kidney problems should not take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR. (See "What are the side effects of GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR?")

Who should not take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR?

Some conditions increase your chance of getting lactic acidosis, or cause other problems if you take either of these medicines. Most of the conditions listed below can increase your chance of getting lactic acidosis.

Do not take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR if you:

- have kidney problems
- have liver problems
- have heart failure that is treated with medicines, such as Lanoxin® (digoxin) or Lasix® (furosemide)
- drink a lot of alcohol. This means you binge drink for short periods or drink all the time
- are seriously dehydrated (have lost a lot of water from your body)
- are going to have an x-ray procedure with injection of dyes (contrast agents)
- are going to have surgery
- develop a serious condition, such as heart attack, severe infection, or a stroke
- are 80 years or older and you have NOT had your kidney function tested

Tell your doctor if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR may not be right for you. Talk with your doctor about your choices. You should also discuss your choices with your doctor if you are nursing a child.

Can GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR be used in children?

GLUCOPHAGE has been shown to effectively lower glucose levels in children (ages 10 to 16 years) with type 2 diabetes. GLUCOPHAGE has not been studied in children younger than 10 years old. GLUCOPHAGE has not been studied in combination with other oral glucose-control medicines or insulin in children. If you have any questions about the use of GLUCOPHAGE in children, talk with your doctor or other healthcare provider.

GLUCOPHAGE XR has not been studied in children.

How should I take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR?

Your doctor will tell you how much medicine to take and when to take it. You will probably start out with a low dose of the medicine. Your doctor may slowly increase your dose until your blood sugar is better controlled. You should take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR with meals.

Your doctor may have you take other medicines along with GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR to control your blood sugar. These medicines may include insulin shots. Taking GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR with insulin may help you better control your blood sugar while reducing the insulin dose.

Continue your exercise and diet program and test your blood sugar regularly while taking GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR. Your doctor will monitor your diabetes and may perform blood tests on you from time to time to make sure your kidneys and your liver are functioning normally. There is no evidence that GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR causes harm to the liver or kidneys.

Tell your doctor if you

- have an illness that causes severe vomiting, diarrhea or fever, or if you drink a much lower amount of liquid than normal. These conditions can lead to severe dehydration (loss of water in your body). You may need to stop taking GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR for a short time.
- plan to have surgery or an x-ray procedure with injection of dye (contrast agent). You may need to stop taking GLUCOPHAGE (metformin hydrochloride tablets) or GLUCOPHAGE XR (metformin hydrochloride extended-release tablets) for a short time.
- start to take other medicines or change how you take a medicine. GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR can affect how well other drugs work, and some drugs can affect how well GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR work. Some medicines may cause high blood sugar.

What should I avoid while taking GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR?

Do not drink a lot of alcoholic drinks while taking GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR. This means you should not binge drink for short periods, and you should not drink a lot of alcohol on a regular basis. Alcohol can increase the chance of getting lactic acidosis.

What are the side effects of GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR?

Lactic Acidosis. In rare cases, GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR can cause a serious side effect called lactic acidosis. This is caused by a buildup of lactic acid in your blood. This build-up can cause serious damage. Lactic acidosis caused by GLUCOPHAGE (metformin hydrochloride tablets) and GLUCOPHAGE XR (metformin hydrochloride extended-release tablets) is rare and has occurred mostly in people whose kidneys were not working normally. Lactic acidosis has been reported in about one in 33,000 patients taking GLUCOPHAGE over the course of a year. Although rare, if lactic acidosis does occur, it can be fatal in up to half the people who develop it.

It is also important for your liver to be working normally when you take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR. Your liver helps remove lactic acid from your blood.

Make sure you tell your doctor before you use GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR if you have kidney or liver problems. You should also stop using GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR and call your doctor right away if you have signs of lactic acidosis. Lactic acidosis is a medical emergency that must be treated in a hospital.

Signs of lactic acidosis are:

- feeling very weak, tired, or uncomfortable
- unusual muscle pain
- trouble breathing
- unusual or unexpected stomach discomfort
- feeling cold
- feeling dizzy or lightheaded
- suddenly developing a slow or irregular heartbeat

If your medical condition suddenly changes, stop taking GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR and call your doctor right away. This may be a sign of lactic acidosis or another serious side effect.

Other Side Effects. Common side effects of GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR include diarrhea, nausea, and upset stomach. These side effects generally go away after you take the medicine for a while. Taking your medicine with meals can help reduce these side effects. Tell your doctor if the side effects bother you a lot, last for more than a few weeks, come back after they've gone away, or start later in therapy. You may need a lower dose or need to stop taking the medicine for a short period or for good.

About 3 out of every 100 people who take GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR have an unpleasant metallic taste when they start taking the medicine. It lasts for a short time.

GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR rarely cause hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) by themselves. However, hypoglycemia can happen if you do not eat enough, if you drink alcohol, or if you take other medicines to lower blood sugar.

General advice about prescription medicines

If you have questions or problems, talk with your doctor or other healthcare provider. You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for the information about GLUCOPHAGE and GLUCOPHAGE XR that is written for health care professionals. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a patient information leaflet. Do not use GLUCOPHAGE or GLUCOPHAGE XR for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share your medicine with other people.

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Revised January 2001

have to rely on it as much these days.

"I have lost about 40 pounds and I'm working on losing more," he says. "My diabetes is in control; it doesn't spike up like it used to, and I feel pretty good."

The actor, whose stellar film and TV performances during his 30-year career have earned him Oscar and Emmy nods, says his role now is to raise awareness in Blacks on the

dangers of obesity.

"I feel like this is my chance to give back to the community," says Winfield, who now lives in New York and narrates the A&E drama, "City Confidential." "We are putting ourselves in danger, and I believe the more information available, the better your chances are at taking control and fighting these illnesses."

How To Find The Doctor Who's Right For You

Finding a doctor is simple. Finding the right one for you is the hard part. With an abundance of doctors to choose from, finding a physician who is attentive to your physical and emotional needs as a patient can be as daunting as searching for a needle in a haystack.

But there's a better option than opening the phone book, closing your eyes and picking the first name your finger lands on, and the following recommendations will help make your search easier.

- Go by word of mouth. Does your best friend rave about her gynecologist, or your uncle extol the virtues of his cardiologist? Word of mouth is one of the best methods of finding a physician, so ask people you know and trust to suggest a doctor.

- Use social or religious groups as a resource. Doctors don't spend all their time seeing patients. Chances are good one may be worshipping next to you in church, volunteering with you at the youth center or debating with you at the book club meeting.

- Get a recommendation from your

former doctor. If you're moving away or switching medical plans, ask your doctor to recommend a new physician.

- Call a local hospital and talk to the nursing staff. Nurses make good references because they can give you the real scoop on the doctors they work with daily.

- Contact your state's Medical Examining Board. Regulatory boards can give you pertinent information on physicians licensed to practice in your state, like the doctor's age, when he or she was licensed, whether the doctor has a malpractice record and whether the board has ever taken any disciplinary action against the physician.

- Click your mouse. From professional medical associations to sites devoted to patient advocacy, the Internet provides a wealth of information to simplify your search for a physician.

- Try and try again. Even the best efforts don't guarantee a perfect doctor-patient match. If your first impression wasn't a good one, you don't have to settle. There are plenty more doctors to choose from, so keep looking until you're completely satisfied.

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Rod Paige Named 2001 School Superintendent Of The Year



Rod Paige

U.S. Education Secretary Roderick Paige, former head of the Houston Independent School District, has been named 2001 superintendent of the year by the American Assn. of

School Administrators (AASA).

His selection for the award was made before his appointment as education secretary in January, says

the AASA, which co-sponsors the 14-year-old national prize with ServiceMaster Co.

Over the course of the seven years he supervised the 210,000-student public school district, Paige was credited with numerous improvements throughout the system, including increasing test scores, curbing student violence and saving the district money by privatizing services.

Paige, who is the first Black to serve as U.S. education secretary, was given the National Alliance of Black School Educators' top superintendent award in November, and he's also the 2000 Texas superintendent of the year.

Federal Grants To Minority Students Aren't Keeping Pace With College Costs: Report

Many of the nation's poorest high school students who've academically kept pace with their middle- and upper-class peers won't be able to continue on the college level due to poorly funded need-based federal financial aid programs, such as Pell Grants, said a report by the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

The Pell Grant is a federal grant that provides funds based on a student's financial aid. To be eligible, students must be full-time, part-time or less than half-time undergraduates. They also must demonstrate exceptional financial need, and reapply every new academic year.

According to the report, the Pell Grant program has failed to keep pace with college costs. Unless the maximum amount of the grant, \$3,300, is doubled, millions of minority students will be locked out of a college education.

The report said rising college costs are hitting poor families harder, with more of their income eaten up by college expenses.

In 1975, the grant covered 84 percent of a student's costs at a public four-year college. In 2000, the grant covered only 39 percent. As a result, many low-income students are forced to work full-time or part-time, cut back on coursework or drop out. The maximum

grant needs to be doubled in order to make up for a 30-year purchasing-power gap, said the report.

Given current demographic projections, by the year 2015 an ethnically and economically diverse group of students—80 percent of whom will be nonWhite—will be applying for college.

Among minority students, more

than 45 percent will be from families that can contribute only a minimum amount and must rely on generous financial aid.

President Bush plans to ask Congress to augment the Pell Grant for new college students by 50 percent, and give an added \$1,000 to recipients who took college-level math and science courses during high school.

▼ **SUPPORTING UNCF's EDUCATION MISSION:** Calvin Haygood (2nd, r), a junior at Benedict College in Columbia, SC, and winner of a computer raffle hosted by EBONY Magazine at the Galleria in Houston, is presented a laptop computer by Rochelle Owsley-Williams (2nd, l), EBONY Magazine's marketing director. The raffle, which emphasized technology, was held in support of the United Negro College Fund's (UNCF) Career Day, celebrated during the UNCF National Conference in Houston. Congratulating Haygood on his prize are (l-r) Kenneth Johnson, president of the National Alumni Council, and Monise Quidley, UNCF national director for alumni affairs and organizations. The theme for this year's UNCF conference was "United and Committed to Raising the Torch."



Census Bureau Notes How More Education Paid Off In Bigger Paychecks For Blacks

Record high percentages of Blacks with college and high school degrees correlate with higher incomes in Black households, the Census Bureau reports.

About 79% of Blacks 25 and older earned at least a high school diploma as of March 2000, according to estimates in a Census report. Some 17% of Blacks 25 and older also obtained at least a bachelor's degree.

As a result, the median household income for Black families was \$27,910 in 1999, the latest year available.

It was up 7.7% from the previous year, accounting for inflation.

However, the Black median in-

come still was lower than the national median household income of \$40,816, which is up 2.7% from the preceding year.

"Blacks were slower to benefit from the boom (in the 1990s), but in the last part of the decade they started catching up," said Roderick Harrison, an analyst with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in discussing the report.

Economic revivals in Black inner-city neighborhoods, primarily in Washington and New York, and a leveling off in the number of single-parent households also contributed to the jump in income, Harrison noted.

Late Daisy Bates Honored By Arkansas With State Holiday



Daisy Bates

Daisy Bates, the late civil rights heroine who guided the nine Black students who broke the color barrier in Little Rock, Arkansas' city schools in 1957, will be honored with a holiday by the

state of Arkansas.

Gov. Mike Huckabee signed legislation to salute Bates on the third Monday in February. Next year, Arkansas residents will begin honoring Bates on the same day as President's Day.

The nine students walked into Lit-

tle Rock's Central High amid rioting Whites and with an Army escort. Meeting before and after school at Bates' small home during the crisis, Daisy Bates advised the children on how to face the taunting and urged them to be proud of what they were accomplishing.

The Central High incident signaled then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower's intent to enforce the 1954 Supreme Court *Brown vs. Board of Education* ruling which banned school segregation.

During the 1950s Bates became a national symbol of Black hope for her prominent role in desegregating the Little Rock bus system in 1956, then as adviser to the Little Rock Nine. She died at the age of 84 on Nov. 4, 1999.



▲ **LAST SUPPER PHOTO FUROR:** Photographer Renee Cox talks to the media in front of her five-panel color photo, *Yo Mama's Last Supper*, at the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York. Cox's photo of Jesus as a naked Black woman surrounded by 12 Black apostles that mimics the poses of Jesus' disciples in Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper* has stirred a debate at the same museum where a dung-decorated painting of the Virgin Mary sparked a six-month legal battle (JET, Oct. 18, 1999). "Get over it! Why can't a woman be Christ? We are the givers of life!" said the Jamaican-born Cox, who posed nude as Jesus with only a shawl draped around her outstretched arms. Reared Catholic, Cox said the image highlights legitimate criticisms of the church, including its refusal to ordain women as priests. New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani called the exhibition "disgusting," "outrageous" and "anti-Catholic." So infuriated by the work, Giuliani, at JET press time, declared that he would appoint a commission to set "decency standards" to keep such work out of museums that receive public money.

Natalie Cole Gets Engaged To Nashville Pastor

When singer Natalie Cole sings her big hit *This Will Be (An Everlasting Love)*, she might be singing to the new love in her life.

Cole recently became engaged to Nashville pastor, Kenneth H. Dupree, who presented her with a 3-carat diamond engagement ring, according to news reports.



Natalie Cole

The upcoming nuptials will be the singer's third marriage. She was married to the late pastor and songwriter Marvin Yancey and later to hit-making producer Andre Fischer. It will be Dupree's second marriage.

Cole's publicist confirmed the engagement. No wedding date has been set.

Teach Your Children Healthy Eating Habits By Setting A Good Example

The old maxim "Do as I say, not as I do" just doesn't work when it comes to teaching your children healthy eating habits.

A growing body of research shows that the bad food habits of parents may play a role in obesity in their children.

The latest government figures show that one in 10 American children are overweight or obese—and the number of overweight children has doubled in the last 15 years! To make matters worse, risk factors for chronic adult conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, gallbladder disease, arthritis and obesity are already set by the time a child reaches adolescence.

Get your kids off to the right start in life by adopting healthy food habits in your household. And don't forget to practice what you preach.

● *Stock up on healthy snacks.*

Health and nutrition experts say moderate snacking is fine, since children need more calories to meet their energy needs than three meals a day provide. But make sure your child isn't just filling up on empty calories. To satisfy those between-meal cravings the healthy way, keep plenty of fruits and raw vegetables, yogurt, cereal, cheese and crackers on hand.

● *Don't overload your child's plate.* Overeating is one of the leading causes of weight gain. Instead of load-

ing your child's plate, serve smaller, child-sized portions. If your child is still hungry, then offer seconds.

● *Let your child shadow you.*

Take your children grocery shopping and have them select nutritional items from the list. Let them help you in the kitchen so they can watch how you prepare food. Your child will adopt good cooking and eating habits that can last a lifetime just by imitating your example.

● *Eat breakfast.* Breakfast really is the most important meal of the day, since it gives our bodies the energy and nutrients we need to face the day. Make sure you and your children start the day right with a well-balanced meal.

● *Don't force food on children.*

Experts say if children aren't pressured to eat food they dislike, they'll eventually learn to enjoy a wide palette of nutritious foods. Introduce a new food with your child's favorite food, and only introduce one new item at a time.

● *Make mealtime pleasant.* If children associate food with stressful or unpleasant situations, it may affect their current and future eating habits and may set the stage for eating disorders, experts say. Save discipline for another time.

● *Don't restrict food either.* An occasional junk-food indulgence won't hurt your child, and it will curb the need to sneak or binge on off-limit food.

Crackers so yummy,
they'll tickle your tummy.



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This Week In Black History

March 7, 1965–

▼ **John Lewis**, civil rights leader and chairman of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, led a group of civil rights demonstrators on a march from Selma to the state capitol in Montgomery, AL,



to protest the denial of voting rights for Blacks on this day. En route, the marchers were violently attacked by White state troopers and sheriff's deputies with tear gas, nightsticks and whips as they attempted to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma. This violent confrontation became known as "Bloody Sunday." Two weeks later, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., under the protection of a fed-

eral court, completed the historic march. In 1982, Lewis was elected Atlanta City Councilman-at-large. In 1986, voters elected him to the U.S. House of Representatives where he currently serves.

March 8, 1977–

► **Henry L. Marsh, III**, a civil rights lawyer, became the first Black mayor of Richmond, VA, on this day. A veteran city councilman, Marsh, 43, was unopposed for the post after voters elected a 5-4 Black majority in the council, which then selected him as mayor. Marsh had served as vice mayor for seven years. Marsh served three consecutive terms in office, vacating his mayor's seat in 1982. Currently, Marsh is serving his third term as a state senator in Virginia.



Hanging out with the guys is easy as **1-2-Free!**

Tired of the same old stomping grounds? This spring, family or friends can get away for a quick week-end trip or a nice long vacation with the Amtrak 1-2-Free special offer. The first person pays full price, the second person pays half and the third goes free. Even if just two people are traveling, it's still a great offer and a great way to rediscover how much fun taking the train can be. Best of all, your satisfaction is guaranteed. Amtrak Spring 1-2-Free Fares must be reserved between February 25, 2001, and May 12, 2001, so act now. For reservations, call your travel agent, contact Amtrak at 1-877-298-7246, or log on to www.amtrak.com.



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A full-page photograph of Toni Braxton at the Grammy Awards. She is wearing a white, backless, high-cut gown with a long train and is holding a Grammy award. The background is a blue wall with repeating white logos of the Grammy award and the CBS eye. The text 'the week's best photos' is overlaid in yellow on the right side of the image.

the week's best photos

■ TANTALIZING TONI:

All eyes were on shapely songstress Toni Braxton at the Grammys when she made a memorable fashion statement as she walked away with her award for Best Female R&B Vocal Performance, *He Wasn't Man Enough*.

Mark J. Terrill/AP

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Spring 2001 Itinerary

(Partial Listing)

New Orleans, LA
Mahalia Jackson Theatre
of the Performing Arts

Baton Rouge, LA
F.G. Clark Activity Center
@ Southern University

Lake Charles, LA
Lake Charles Civic Center

Alexandria, LA
Alexandria Convention Hall

Vicksburg, MS
Vicksburg City Auditorium

Shreveport, LA
Municipal Auditorium/Expo Hall

Tyler, TX
Caldwell Auditorium

Dallas, TX
Fair Park Music Hall

Longview, TX
Maude Cobb Activity Center

Arkana, TX
Perot Theater

Tulsa, OK
Doubletree Hotel Downtown

Oklahoma City, OK
Rose State Performing Arts Theater

Ft. Worth, TX
Will Rogers Memorial Auditorium

Waco, TX
Waco Hippodrome

Bryan, TX
Bryan Civic Auditorium

Corpus Christi, TX
Selena Auditorium

Houston, TX
University Auditorium

San Antonio, TX
Lila Cockrell Theatre

Beaumont, TX
Holiday Inn Plaza

Sat., 3/3
8:00pm

Sun., 3/4
3:00pm

Mon., 3/5
8:00pm

Tues., 3/6
8:00pm

Wed., 3/7
8:00pm

Fri., 3/9
8:00pm

Sat., 3/10
8:00pm

Sun., 3/11
5:00pm

Tues., 3/13
8:00pm

Thurs., 3/15
8:00pm

Fri., 3/16
8:00pm

Sat. 3/17
8:00pm

Sun., 3/18
4:00pm

Tues., 3/20
8:00pm

Wed., 3/21
8:00pm

Thurs., 3/22
7:00pm

Sat., 3/24
8:00pm

Sun., 3/25
6:00pm

Tues., 3/27
7:30pm

Ticket prices include one-year
subscription to EBONY or six
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beauty of the week

STACY FOSTER
of Hamburg, NJ,
enjoys reading,
traveling and
horseback riding.

Photo by
Kevin S. Nash





A. Turner/Wireimage.com

■ **HOT PERFORMANCE:** Queen of Hip-Hop Soul Mary J. Blige and Wyclef Jean perform their fiery duet *911* at the Clive Davis pre-Grammy party at the Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA. The tune earned the pair a Grammy nomination.



■ **FAMILY TIME:** Famed TV actress Holly Robinson Peete and football star Rodney Peete take their twin children, Rodney Jackson and Ryan Elizabeth, to the world premiere of the Walt Disney movie *The Lady and The Tramp II: Scamp's Adventure* at Hollywood's El Capitan Theatre.

Alvada's aunt, Erma,
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RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Scrumptious Kabobs

Scrumptious kabobs are great for entertaining or a regular meal for your family. You can create as many different types of kabobs as your imagination allows.

They can be cooked in the broiler or on the grill.

Easy Chicken Kabobs are tasty and your guests and family will love them.



Easy Chicken Kabobs

4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch pieces
½ cup Italian salad dressing
1 large clove garlic, crushed
1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil or 1 teaspoon dried basil

1 medium green pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces
1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces
1 medium red onion, cut into 1-inch pieces

Combine salad dressing, garlic, and basil until well-blended in large bowl. Add chicken pieces and toss gently to coat. Cover and refrigerate for 15 minutes. Remove chicken from marinade. Alternate chicken and vegetable on 4 to 6 metal skewers or bamboo skewers. Set oven to broil or 550 degrees. Place skewers on broiler pan and brush with marinade. Broil until chicken is done, about 5 to 10 minutes, turning occasionally. Kabobs can also be cooked on the grill.



Yields 4 servings



▲ **CLOWNING ON THE COURT:** Los Angeles Lakers Shaquille O'Neal laughs with a clown-nosed Don Nelson, Dallas Mavericks head coach, before their game at Reunion Arena in Dallas, TX. The last time the two teams met, Dallas sent O'Neal to the line 20 times and O'Neal called Nelson a "clown." This was Nelson's first game back after treatment for prostate cancer. Having been absent 21 games and 52 days, Nelson added drama to his return by arranging for O'Neal to come over to take the foam nose off the coach's face and put it on his own. "I knew he wouldn't forget my comments," O'Neal said.

Atlanta's Andruw Jones Gets Record \$8.2 Million In Arbitration Win



Andruw Jones

Andruw Jones recently set a salary arbitration record when a panel selected his \$8.2 million request over the Atlanta Braves' \$6.4 million offer.

Jones became the first player in nine years to set the arbitration record with a win. His salary topped the previous arbitration high of \$7.2 mil-

lion set last year by Yankees closer Mariano Rivera, who had requested \$9.25 million.

Jones joined Atlanta late in the 1996 season while still a teenager. He hit two home runs in his first World Series game at Yankee Stadium.

Turning 24 in April, Jones had his best year in 2000, hitting .303 with 36 homers, 104 RBIs and 21 steals. The center fielder also won his third-straight Gold Glove.

Jones, who made \$3.7 million last



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season, is eligible for free agency after the 2002 season.

Braves general manager John Schuerholz said the team wants to work out a long-term deal with Jones

before he's on the market.

"Hopefully, they (Jones and his agent) are willing to do that," Schuerholz said. "We've been of that mindset for more than a year."



■ **LEARNING YOUNG:** Two-year-old Darren Baker hands a bat to his father, San Francisco Giants' manager Dusty Baker, during spring training in Scottsdale, AZ. Leading the Giants to the best record in the majors last season, Baker was named the National League Manager of the Year for a record third time. The Giants are in the second week of spring training games. April 2 is the team's season opener.



NBA's Mutombo Traded To 76ers; Howard To Mavericks

Since the February 22 NBA trade deadline, some key players are now sporting new uniforms. Star players like Dikembe Mutombo and Juwan Howard were among the 22 players who changed teams in four separate trades. This was the highest number of players dealt on a deadline day since the NBA began keeping track in 1987.

Mutombo, the NBA's leading rebounder, was traded from Atlanta to Philadelphia in a six-player deal. The trade also sent Roshown McLeod to Philadelphia in exchange for Theo Ratliff, Nazr Mohammed, Toni Kukoc, and Pepe Sanchez.

"I'm going to Philadelphia to play with a great player, Allen Iverson, a scoring machine who plays with tremendous energy," the 7-foot-2 Mutombo said. "The opportunity to win a championship is certainly there."



◀ *Dikembe Mutombo (far, l), the league's top rebounder, was traded from Atlanta to Philadelphia in a six-player deal. Juwan Howard headlined an eight-player trade that sent him from Washington to Dallas.*

Philadelphia fans and players hope their new weapon in Mutombo's shot blocking and power rebounding lead straight to a title.

In a larger deal, the Wizards dealt Juwan Howard to the Mavericks in an eight-player trade. The Wizards also sent Calvin Booth and Obinna Ekezie to Dallas and received Christian Laettner, Courtney Alexander, Loy Vaught, Hubert Davis, Etan Thomas and \$3 million in cash.

Howard is in the fifth year of a seven-year, \$105 million contract that pays him \$38 million over the final two seasons, money that has slowed the Wizards ability to acquire free agents to improve the club.

"Sure, everyone said Juwan was an untradeable situation," said Michael Jordan, the Wizards president of basketball operations. "But you never know—when you get to a situation where a team needs a particular player."

"They could have put me in a situation that is totally different from Dallas," Howard said. "It could have been a bad situation where a team does not win. Dallas is a team that's on the rise."

Continued from page 16

that she was only able to drink water all day but would chow down on chips and cookies afterwards.

Braxton and fiancé Keri Lewis from *Mint Condition* will marry April 23. She said he wrote three of the songs on the album she's working on. Commenting on the Eminem controversy, she said, "I was rooting for him because I don't believe in censorship."

A feast for the ears and eyes, the members of Destiny's Child wowed the audience when they performed their hit single *Independent Women* dressed in shimmering blue hot pants and halter top ensembles.

Erykah Badu, whose trademark had been colorful headwraps, stun-

► Fans barked for Lil' Bow Wow, who attended the event with his mother, manager-stylist Teresa Caldwell.

▼ The Baha Men also had everyone barking when its hit *Who Let The Dogs Out* earned the group a Grammy.





▲ Songwriters (l-r) LaShawn Daniels, Fred Jerkins III and Rodney Jerkins display the Grammys they earned for Best R&B Song for writing Destiny's Child's *Say My Name*.

ned her fans when she came onstage as a presenter making her latest fashion statement—a shaved head.

Macy Gray, who beat out Madonna and Christina Aguilera as Best Pop Female Vocalist for *I Try*, was not to be outdone when it came to new

hairdos. She exchanged her Afro for flat-ironed-hair-trimmed-in-purple—and had the audience (and the Staples Center) bouncing in the seats when she performed *I Try*. Bono, the lead singer of the Irish rock band U2, told the sold-out crowd as he accept-

▼ *The Temptations* earned an award for Best Traditional R & B Album for *Ear-Resistible*.





◀ Gospel great Shirley Caesar and contemporary gospel group Mary Mary won awards.

head of the recording academy, introduced Dr. Dre to the audience. He received a standing ovation. Dr. Dre also won in the category of Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group for *Forget About Dre* with Eminem.

Lil' Bow Wow said he canceled a European tour to be at the

show. He opened the program with Madonna. He said she called him and asked him to open it with her. He told reporters that he turns 14 March 30 and he's "already driving cars."

Other Black Grammy winners,



▲ Beenie Man shows off his Grammy for Best Reggae Album for Art and Life. ▶ Music legends Stevie Wonder and Bette Midler were presenters at the star-studded affair.

ed for Record of the Year (*Beautiful Day*) that Macy Gray should have won it.

Eminem, who won three Grammys in the rap music category, thanked Dr. Dre from the stage and told him: "You got me up here." Michael Greene,

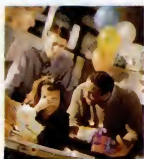




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Paul Smith / Featureflash



Paul Smith / Featureflash

▲ The always fashionable Busta Rhymes, flashy Grammy-nominee Sisqo, with date, model Tara, and sexy singer Mya turned heads during music's biggest awards night. ►

many who appear on these pages making fashion statements as dynamic as their music, were: Baha Men, Best Dance Recording (*Who Let the Dogs Out*); Lenny Kravitz, Best Male Rock Vocal Performer (*Again*); the Temptations, Best Traditional R&B Vocal Album (*Ear-Resistible*); Dianne Reeves, Best Jazz Vocal Album (*In the Moment-Live in Concert*); Branford Marsalis, Best Jazz Instrumental Album, Individual or Group (*Contemporary Jazz*); Shirley Caesar, Best Traditional Soul Gospel Album (*You Can Make It*); Mary Mary, Best Contemporary Soul Gospel Album (*Thankful*); the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, Best Gospel Choir or Chorus Album (*Live-God Is Working*); Sidney Poitier, Best Spoken Word Album (*The Measure of a Man*); Taj Mahal & the Phantom Blues Band, Best Contemporary Blues Album (*Shoutin' in Key*) and Beenie Man, Best Reggae Album (*Art and Life*).



Ernie Stewart / Retna



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Cedric ‘The Entertainer’

Scores In Commercials, TV And Film With Down-Home Comedy

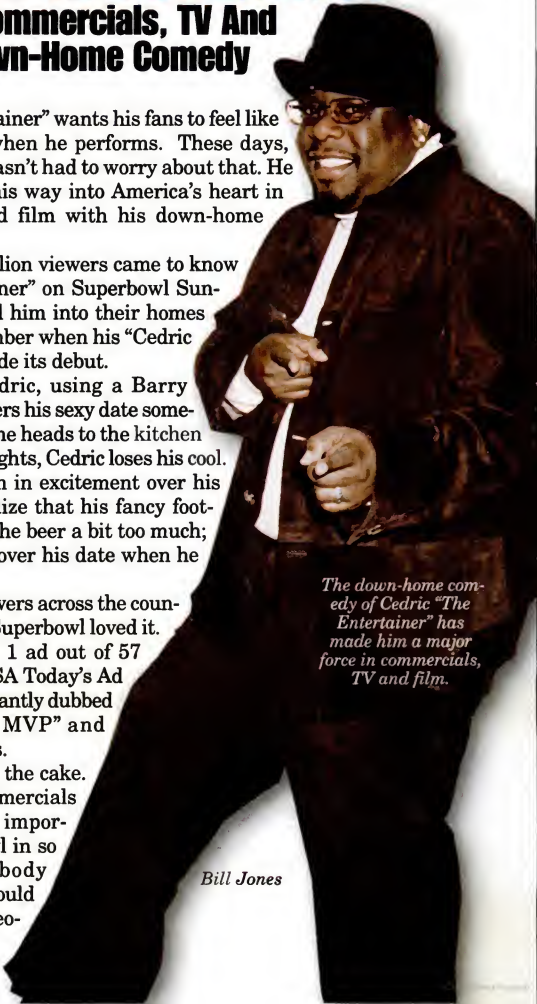
Cedric “The Entertainer” wants his fans to feel like they know him when he performs. These days, the comedian-actor hasn’t had to worry about that. He already has danced his way into America’s heart in commercials, TV and film with his down-home comedy.

More than 144 million viewers came to know Cedric “The Entertainer” on Superbowl Sunday. People welcomed him into their homes just like a family member when his “Cedric Date” commercial made its debut.

In it, the cool Cedric, using a Barry White-toned voice, offers his sexy date something to drink. When he heads to the kitchen for two ice cold Bud Lights, Cedric loses his cool. He dances up a storm in excitement over his date, but doesn’t realize that his fancy footwork has shaken up the beer a bit too much; the beer explodes all over his date when he opens it.

The millions of viewers across the country who watched the Superbowl loved it. It was voted the No. 1 ad out of 57 aired, according to USA Today’s Ad Meter. Cedric was instantly dubbed “Madison Avenue’s MVP” and praised by the masses.

“That was icing on the cake. The Superbowl commercials have become just as important as the Superbowl in so many ways. Everybody liked it because that could happen to anyone. Peo-



The down-home comedy of Cedric “The Entertainer” has made him a major force in commercials, TV and film.

Bill Jones

Courtesy of Anheuser-Busch



▲ Cedric's Bud Light Superbowl commercial made him an overnight success. It ranked No. 1 on USA Today's Ad Meter, earning him the title of "Madison Avenue's MVP."

ple got it," he tells JET about the hilarious commercial's universal appeal.

Three additional Bud Light spots feature him as "The Touchdown Boogie Coordinator." In those commer-

cials the fun-loving comedian teaches football players how to boogie just right when they get into the end zone.

He has already won a huge following each week as high school Coach

▼ His commercials as "The Touchdown Boogie Coordinator" are just as popular. "I bring a little flavor. I got the moves. I try to put it down," chuckles Cedric.



Courtesy of Anheuser-Busch



Each week Cedric appears on the sitcom "The Steve Harvey Show" with Steve Harvey and Terri J. Vaughn. "It's hard not to like Ced," says Harvey.

Cedric Jackie Robinson on the top-rated WB sitcom "The Steve Harvey Show." And TV audiences will see a lot more of him because the WB is developing a pilot where he'll play a coach who heads the NBA's losingest team.

Movie projects are nothing foreign to Cedric. He'll appear in the upcoming comedy *Kingdom Come*, which will star Whoopi Goldberg, LL Cool J, Vivica Fox, Jada Pinkett Smith and Toni Braxton. In it he'll portray the Rev. Beverly H. Hooker, a preacher who attempts to console a family after the loss of its patriarch.

His observation of how preacher characters nearly always steal scenes

► In the upcoming Fox Searchlight comedy *Kingdom Come*, Cedric appears opposite Oscar-winner Whoopi Goldberg. "I signed on the project to work with Whoopi. I met her and we hit it off. I was excited to work with her," he says.

in movies inspired him and his manager-business partner, Eric C. Rhone, to write and produce his own movie, *Preaching Ain't Easy*. The upcoming film will feature Steve Harvey, D.L. Hughley and Bernie Mac, Cedric's "Kings of Comedy" cohorts.

Cedric will use his deep, distinctive voice as a zoo bear in the Eddie Murphy sequel *Dr. Dolittle 2*. A film



D. Stevens / Fox Searchlight Pictures



▲ A couple of years ago Cedric was a part of the mammoth "Kings of Comedy" tour and movie which featured D.L. Hughley, Harvey and Bernie Mac. The four will reunite to star in Cedric's movie *Preaching Ain't Easy*, slated for release this summer.

starring Matthew Perry and Elizabeth Hurley, *Servicing Sara*, will also feature Cedric.

On the comedy circuit, he has a sizable fan base as a stand-up comedian. As part of the "Kings of Comedy" tour, which featured his TV partner Steve Harvey, D.L. Hughley and Bernie Mac, the show went on to become the biggest comedy tour of all time in 1998 and again in 1999. The show's concert album recently earned them a Grammy nomination for Best Spoken Comedy Album.

And in May he's launching a 30-city comedy tour, which he'll host to feature new comedians.

"Things have been on and popping ever since" the commercial debuted, he says. And it's been a dream come true for the St. Louis native.

Born Cedric Antonio Kyles, he took on the stage name Cedric "The Enter-

tainer" while singing in high school and in college. He says that back in the day he was known more for his fancy dance moves and great singing than for telling jokes. But, no matter what, he knew he could do it all, thus he named himself "The Entertainer."

Cedric's mother, Rosetta Kyles, a retired school reading specialist, noticed her son's passion for performing as a youngster. "He was very bent on entertaining with singing and dancing. He was always singing and dancing in plays. I couldn't nail down the comedic part because that didn't come until later."

A member of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, Cedric graduated from Southeast Missouri State University with a major in broadcast television and a minor in theatre. He worked for a short while as a claims adjuster for State Farm before he left to pursue



▲ Family is important to Cedric, who married the former Lorna Wells last year and became the father of a son, Croix Alexander Kyles, in September. He also is the father of 11-year-old Tiara Kyles.

his dream of performing full-time. His mother realized her son had found his calling when he left corporate America to follow his passion.

"He really convinced me when he said, 'I really feel like a comedian.' I thought that was really something. I saw him perform and thought he was really funny. I said, 'He can do that.' He seemed like he'd found his niche."

Harvey, Cedric's mentor, met and befriended Cedric 12 years ago when Cedric was a fledgling comedian. It was Harvey who gave Cedric his first big break on the comedy circuit in 1989. When the show's headliner was bombing at Harvey's Dallas comedy club, Harvey allowed Cedric five minutes at the mic. He got a standing ovation. "I knew I had made it to the big time," recalls Cedric.

"I paid him the first big money he had ever made as a stand-up. That let him know he could make it," says Harvey. "I got started as a comedian before Cedric, so in the beginning I gave him a lot of advice. Now Cedric has taken off full-blown on his own. He has understood the principles of success and he has taken them in his own direction. I respect Cedric because I know he's one of the funniest guys out there."

In 1992, Cedric made his TV debut as a stand-up comic on "It's Showtime At The Apollo." He then performed on HBO's "Def Comedy Jam," before he landed a position in 1994 as the host of BET's "Comic View," replacing its former host D.L. Hughley. As the host of "Ced's Comedy Crockpot," he simmered up laughs and took the come-



Suzy Gorman

▲ Cedric spends time with his biggest fans (l-r), his mother, Rosetta Kyles, manager-business partner-frat brother Eric C. Rhone and only sibling, sister Sharita Kyles Wilson. "People have always been drawn to my brother," says Kyles Wilson of her older brother.

dy show to a new level.

Two years later, Cedric and Harvey teamed up for "The Steve Harvey Show."

Other film credits for Cedric include 2000's *Big Momma's House* and *The Original Kings Of Comedy*, a movie based on the successful tour.

Making his motion picture debut in 1998's *Ride* was exciting for Cedric in more ways than one. While filming the movie, he met Lorna Wells, one of the set's costumers. She became "Mrs. Entertainer" the following year. The two recently became the parents of an infant son, Croix Alexander Kyles, in September. Cedric is also the father of an 11-year-old daughter, Tiara Kyles, from a previous relationship.

Cedric says he's definitely not on stage 24/7. "I have him laughing more

than he has me laughing," says Lorna. "When he's home, the funny boots are zipped off. He's pretty much a homebody. Most of the time we watch the same movies over and over. We'll act out and recite lines from *Low Down Dirty Shame*."

In a time when many comedians believe cursing is required for a laugh, Cedric has proved that good guys can finish first in comedy. "You feel comfortable with me and that comes from not cursing you out and not coming out being offensive," he explains.

Manager Rhone says Cedric's energy is magnetic. "He is so genuine. What you see is what you get. He's a very happy person. People are drawn to him because he gives off a positive energy. His genuine, fun-loving attitude in life transcends comedy."

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- 12. A NU DAY**
Tamia (Elektra)
- 13. X**
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- 14. BEWARE OF DOG**
Lil' Bow Wow (Def Soul)
- 15. MAMA'S GUN**
Erykah Badu (Motown)
- 16. THE UNDERSTANDING**
Memphis Bleek (Roc-A-Fella)
- 17. CHICAGO '85...THE MOVIE**
Dave Hollister (Def Squad)
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Nelly (Fo' Reel)
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Andre Braugher stars as Dr. Benjamin Gideon, chief of experimental medicine at a prestigious Boston teaching hospital that is often the last hope for critically ill patients, and **Russell Hornsby** co-stars as the chief resident Dr. Aaron Boies on "Gideon's Crossing," (Monday, March 12 at 10 p.m., ET) on ABC. Others scheduled to appear this week include:

Eriq LaSalle/Michael Michele on "ER," (Thursday, March 8 at 10 p.m., ET) on NBC.

Mykelti Williamson on "The Fugitive," (Friday, March 9 at 9 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Roger Aaron Brown/John Amos/Lynne Thigpen/Sean Patrick Thomas on "The Dis-

trict," (Saturday, March 10 at 10 p.m., ET) on CBS.

LisaGay Hamilton/Steve Harris on "The Practice," (Sunday, March 11 at 10 p.m., ET) on ABC.

Coby Bell/Michael Beach on "Third Watch," (Monday, March 12 at 10 p.m., ET) on NBC.

David Alan Grier/Mel Jackson on "DAG," (Tuesday, March 13 at 8:30 p.m., ET) on NBC.

James McDaniel/Henry Simmons on "NYPD Blue," (Tuesday, March 13 at 10 p.m., ET) on ABC.

Glynn Turman on "Big Apple," (Wednesday, March 14 at 9 p.m., ET) on CBS.

Jesse L. Martin/S. Epatha Merkersen on "Law & Order," (Wednesday, March 14 at 10 p.m., ET) on NBC.

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